

**COMPETITIVE FILM SEARCH**

for

***"Earth Moves Revisited"***

**AUTEUR ANIMATION**

**ANIMATED DOCUMENTARY**

**February 27, 2009**

## Conclusion

No films in any medium come anywhere remotely near what my proposed film does.

Additional good news is that the many didactic science-education films that have cropped up recently on this topic seem to have set the stage for viewers to be ready to grasp this film. The subject should now be more accessible than it was ten years ago. Viewers should be more able to guess at the parts and players involved beneath the surface, so that the film can more readily depict the landscape itself in long stretches of continuous time—different angle entirely. *The time is now ripe.*

## TV and video series

**“Earth: The Biography” 2008 BBC series**

**“Geologic Journey” 2007 CBC series**

**“Faces of the Earth” 2007 Discovery Channel series**

**“When Terranes Collide” 1992 KNO series**

**“Earth Revealed” 1992 Intelcom college classroom video series**

**“Miracle Planet” 1989 PBS series**

**Evaluation:** None of the above contain continuous animation of landscape transformations. These are scientific and didactic, illustrating and explaining abstract principles of physics with diagrams, focusing on the forces below the surface, or on the global view of continental drift, with scientists on camera, and talking heads on location. Bits of CGI animation are used sparingly to illustrate isolated events such as asteroid impacts, or to illustrate plate tectonics. *Geologic Journey* focuses on the same regions and time periods as the *Earth Moves* storyboards, but there is no animation to speak of. *Miracle Planet* focuses on the history of life at much earlier times. In comparison to my proposed film, all these are dry, and approach the subject in the standard, familiar way, largely following the template of David Attenborough.

### NFB animated films

NFB animated films on this subject are over 34 years old: *Continental Drift*, 1968, *Face of the Earth*, 1975, and *Moving Plates and Continents*, 1975. Their animation focuses on the underlying theoretical processes of plate tectonics, with simplified graphics. None focus on the surface landscape of Canada. They are not auteur films.

**Recommended Video Resources (in *K-7 Resource Package*):**

School teachers consulted in 2000 verified that none of the videos listed below from the *K-7 Resource Package* contain anything remotely competitive with my proposal. Some of these videos could be used as adjunct resources for classrooms. No NFB films were listed. All are aimed at Grade 7, except as noted.

- *Earth in Change: The Earth's Crust* (BCLC) - live footage and diagrams showing tectonics and erosion
- *Evidence for the Ice Ages* (BCLC, grades 4-6) - includes timelapse footage of glaciers.
- *Science Essentials: Geology* (BCLC, grades 4-6) - demonstrates principals such as erosion
- *Earthquakes: Our Restless Planet* (McIntyre Media) - overview of tectonics and continental drift
- *Discovering the Changing Surface of the Earth* (BCLC)- overview of geological processes
- *Earth* (Marlin Motion Pictures) - includes computer graphics depicting plate tectonics
- *Plate Tectonics: The Puzzle of the Continents* (McIntyre Media) - illustrates plate tectonics